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INFORMATION,  
PREVENTION AND  
TREATMENT REFERRALS, AND  
OTHER RESOURCES ARE  
AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY  
FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
INFORMATION AND  
EDUCATION HELPLINE/  
THE MEDICAL FOUNDATION.

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TTY: 617-536-5872  
WWW.HELPLINE-ONLINE.COM

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
AND STATISTICS ARE  
AVAILABLE FROM:

- Massachusetts Youth Health Survey, October 2002  
[www.state.ma.us/dph/bsas](http://www.state.ma.us/dph/bsas)
- Massachusetts Youth Risk Behavior Survey  
[www.doe.mass.edu/hssss/yrbs/01/results.pdf](http://www.doe.mass.edu/hssss/yrbs/01/results.pdf)
- National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University  
[www.casacolumbia.org](http://www.casacolumbia.org)
- Monitoring the Future, Overview of Key Findings 2002  
[www.monitoringthefuture.org](http://www.monitoringthefuture.org)
- Office of National Drug Control Policy  
[www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov)
- Parents. The Anti Drug  
[www.theantidrug.com](http://www.theantidrug.com)
- Partnership for a Drug-Free America  
[www.drugfreeamerica.org](http://www.drugfreeamerica.org)
- U. S. Department of Health and Human Services  
[www.health.org](http://www.health.org)

*Be the first to* **TALK WITH YOUR PRE-TEEN**  
*about* **ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, and other DRUGS**

**INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES**

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**METHAMPHETAMINE**

► **WHAT IS IT?**

- White or yellow odorless, crystal-like powder that comes in many forms (e.g., loose, rock-like chunks)
- Can be taken orally, smoked, snorted or injected
- Also called speed, meth, chalk, ice, crystal, glass, crank, croak, tweak, go-fast. Considered a “club drug.”

► **STATISTICS**

- 3.5% of 8th graders in the US have used methamphetamine.
- 5.7% of 9th graders in Massachusetts have used methamphetamine.
- Because methamphetamine is highly addictive and easy to manufacture, its use is on the rise, including among individuals who attend “raves” (all-night dance parties).

► **RISKS**

- Increased heart rate, blood pressure, and body temperature
- Memory loss, breathing problems, extreme weight loss, convulsions
- Liver, kidney, and lung damage
- Infectious diseases, including hepatitis B and C, and HIV/AIDS (among injection users)
- Psychosis, including paranoia, hallucinations, delusions, and mood disturbances
- Addiction—methamphetamine may be as addictive as crack.
- Heart attack, stroke, or brain damage. Because of its toxic, lethal ingredients, methamphetamine may be more likely than other drugs to cause these risks.
- Death

► **WHAT TO LOOK FOR**

- Aggressive, violent, or psychotic behavior (including compulsive activity)
- Euphoria or “rush,” followed by a “crash” or extreme agitation
- Dilated pupils, chest pain, shortness of breath, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Nervous physical activity, insomnia, confusion, irritability, anxiety, dizziness, decreased appetite
- Paraphernalia for inhaling (razor blades, straws) or injecting (syringes, surgical tubing)

CLICK  
HERE  
FOR

**SOURCES  
OF  
STATISTICS**